

CH-23
Catslide Roof House (Burch House)
Port Tobacco
Private

early 18th century
with 19th century alterations

The Burch House began as a one-story structure with a hall and parlor floor plan and a single exterior chimney at each end. Early in the 19th century the front slope of the roof was raised to provide for the full second-floor rooms. At a slightly later date, the rear slope was extended to provide for two rear additions. The long slope of this roof gives it the name catslide. The Burch House is one of the earliest examples of an original two-room plan in Charles County and is one of four surviving 18th century buildings in the former county seat of Port Tobacco. It is now owned by the Society for the Restoration of Port Tobacco, Inc.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON:	
"BURCH HOUSE" OR "HOUSE WITH THE CAT SLIDE ROOF"	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Chapel Point Road			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Port Tobacco			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maryland		Charles	

3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition:	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes:
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
				No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNERS NAME:			
The Society for the Restoration of Port Tobacco, Inc.			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	
Port Tobacco	Maryland		

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:			
Charles County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE	
La Plata	Maryland		
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:			

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	

STATE:

COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This building has the type of sloping roof known as a "salt box" or "cat slide". The house is in ruinous condition however ^{due to this} it is easier to see the various stages of construction.

The original house was probably only of one room depth and two in length. There was no center hall-access was from a door in the largest of the two rooms. This portion appears to be of very great date. The one mantle that remains intact was removed and is stored in another building owned by the Society. The doors are beaded battens with large H and HL hinges fastened with rose headed nails and leather rivets. The floors are randomwidth and the wall treatment is plaster.

It appears that sometime in the late 18th. or early 19th. century the second floor was added and then much later the rear cells and ^{new} stair added and the rear roof extended to give it the cat slide appearance.

The house sits on brick foundations with a cellar beneath with the exception of the rear additions which rests on brick and concrete pillars.

The chimneys have hips at the second floor level and appear to be of single flues. The chimney base on the W gable is arched while the other is solid.

Gr. 1720-30

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐

16th Century ☐

18th Century ☒

20th Century ☐

15th Century ☐

17th Century ☐

19th Century ☐

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐

Education ☐

Political ☐

Urban Planning ☐

Prehistoric ☐

Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐

Historic ☐

Industry ☐

losophy ☐

Agriculture ☐

Invention ☐

Science ☐

Art ☐

Landscape ☐

Sculpture ☐

Commerce ☐

Architecture ☐

Sociol/Humon-

Communications ☐

Literature ☐

ition ☐

Conservation ☐

Military ☐

Theater ☐

Music ☐

Transportation ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

This house is very probably the oldest house standing in Port Tobacco and would merit restoration if for that fact only. There are hopes expressed by the Society to eventually restore at least portions of the town (reconstruction). At the present time the Charles County courthouse of the 1821 to 1892 period is to be reconstructed and coupled with the private restorations of the few remaining dwellings restoration of the Burch House would add greatly to the overall environment.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

N. R. FIELD SHEET

CH-23

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "		0 ' "	0 ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	COOE	COUNTY	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE
STATE:	COOE	COUNTY:	COOE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <u>J. Richard Rivoire</u>		
ORGANIZATION <u>Maryland Historical Trust</u>	DATE	
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Annapolis</u>	STATE <u>Maryland</u>	COOE

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Charles TOWN Port Tobacco VICINITY STREET NO. ORIGINAL OWNER Unknown ORIGINAL USE Residence Tobacco PRESENT OWNER Soc. for Rest. of Port / PRESENT USE Vacant WALL CONSTRUCTION Frame NO. OF STORIES 1 1/2		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY 2. NAME Salt Box House DATE OR PERIOD 18th Century (early) STYLE Salt Box or Cat slide ARCHITECT Unknown BUILDER Unknown	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <p>This structure in its existing state measures approximately 28' 6" wide and 28' 6" deep. It has remarkable and unique outside chimneys at each end, the west chimney having an arched opening at the bottom by which entry can be made from the outside to the shallow cellar below the house. These chimneys, the mortise and tenon construction and other features indicate that the building building started as a one story, two room, A-roof house, with the existing chimneys, but that early in its existence, a lean-to was added to the back, and the rear roof slope extended in a straight line from the existing ridge pole to the rear of the lean-to. At a much later time, probably latter 19th Century, it is apparent that the front of the original A-roof was raised to provide additional attic or 2nd floor space at which time the three existing upstairs windows were added in the front. The building probably originated about the time that Port Tobacco (officially named Charlestown by the Md. Assembly 1727) was designated to be the County Seat. It is possible however that the house was built prior to 1727, since there was a village known as Chandlerstown at this location which was absorbed into the County Seat.</p>		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior			
The physical condition of the building is extremely endangered, but much of the original material remains and could be preserved into the restored structure if immediate steps are taken to save it.			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER DATE OF RECORD	

PHS MAY BE ADDED ON SECT. OF SAME SIZE

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHO

1. STATE *Md.*
COUNTY *Chas.*
TOWN *Port Tobacco* VICINITY
STREET NO.

ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE *dwelling*
PRESENT OWNER *Society for Rest. of Port Tobacco*
PRESENT USE
WALL CONSTRUCTION *frame*
NO. OF STORIES *2*

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY

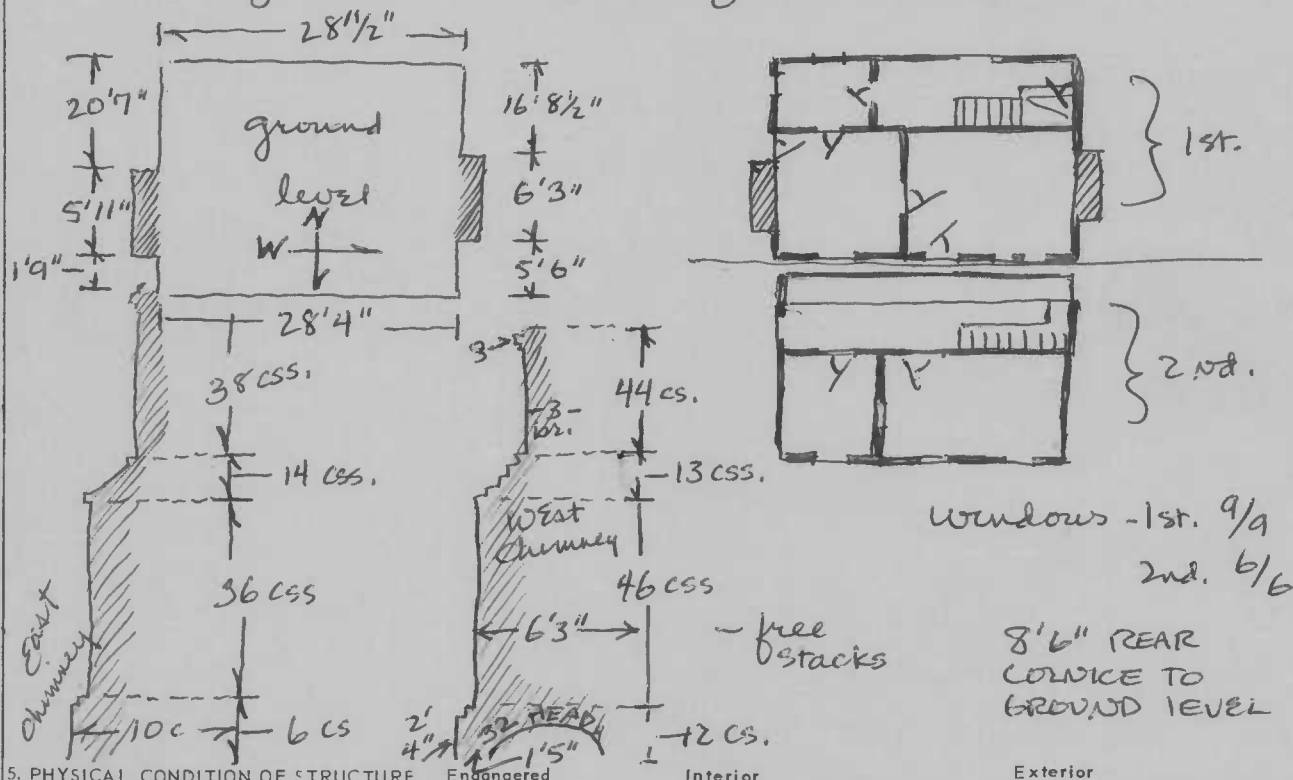
2. NAME *Burch House*
DATE OR PERIOD *18th. to 19th.*
STYLE
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

impossible to get accurate meas. due to deteriorated condition of structure and dangerous condition of the interior.

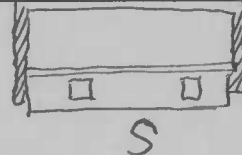
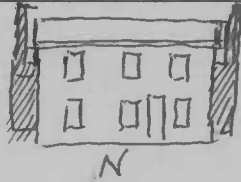


5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE

Endangered

Interior

Exterior



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

DATE OF RECORD

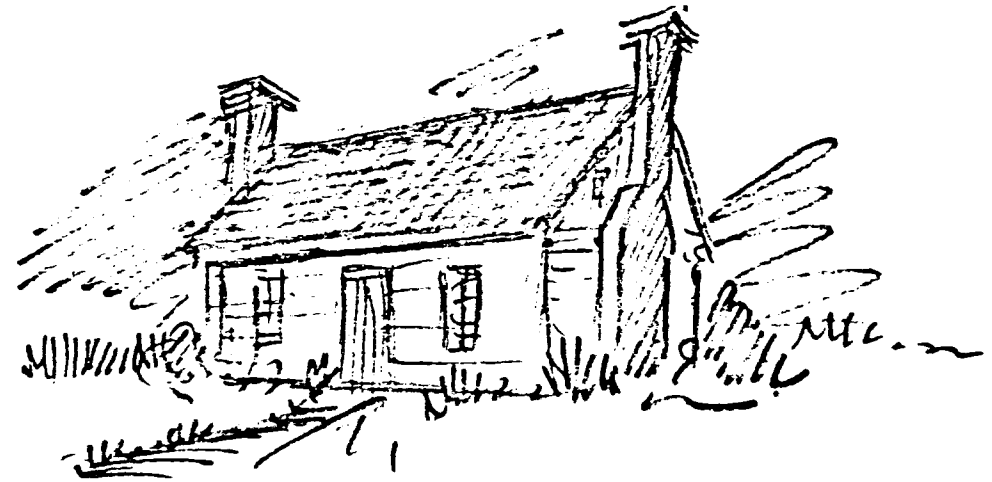


THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
 P. O. BOX #1704
 ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21404

Mr. Barber
 Stag, Hall
 Port Tobacco
 Maryland

Mr. Barber
 Stag, Hall
 Port Tobacco
 Maryland

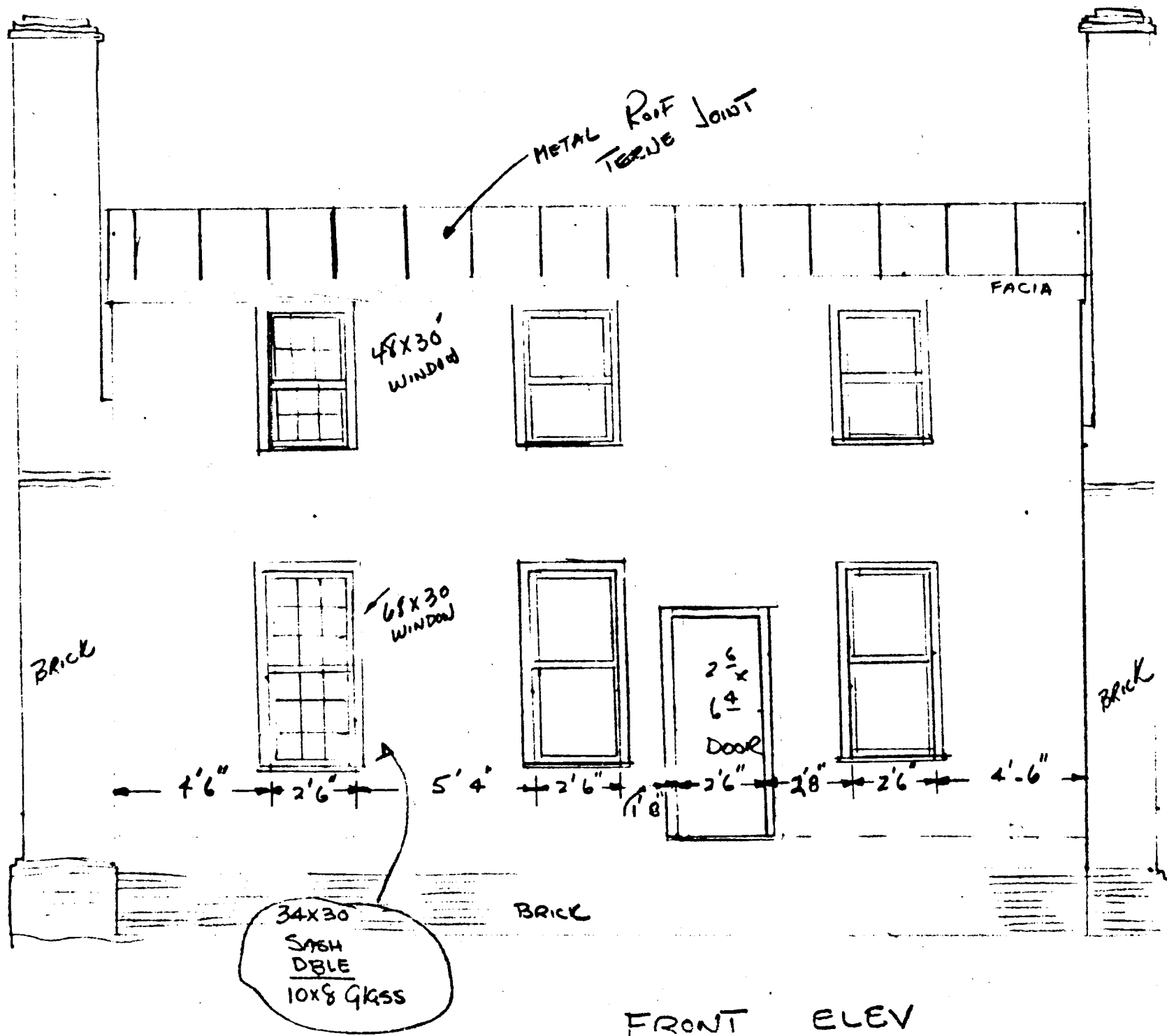
I hope you realize that if --
 house is restored to its orig
design it will be only one
 story (or 1 1/2) with only 2 rooms
 downstairs.



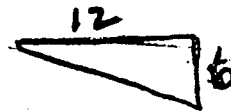
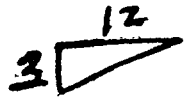
Of course I may be wrong. We shall
 see what the architect says.
 Hope the Oct. tour goes well!

R

CH-23

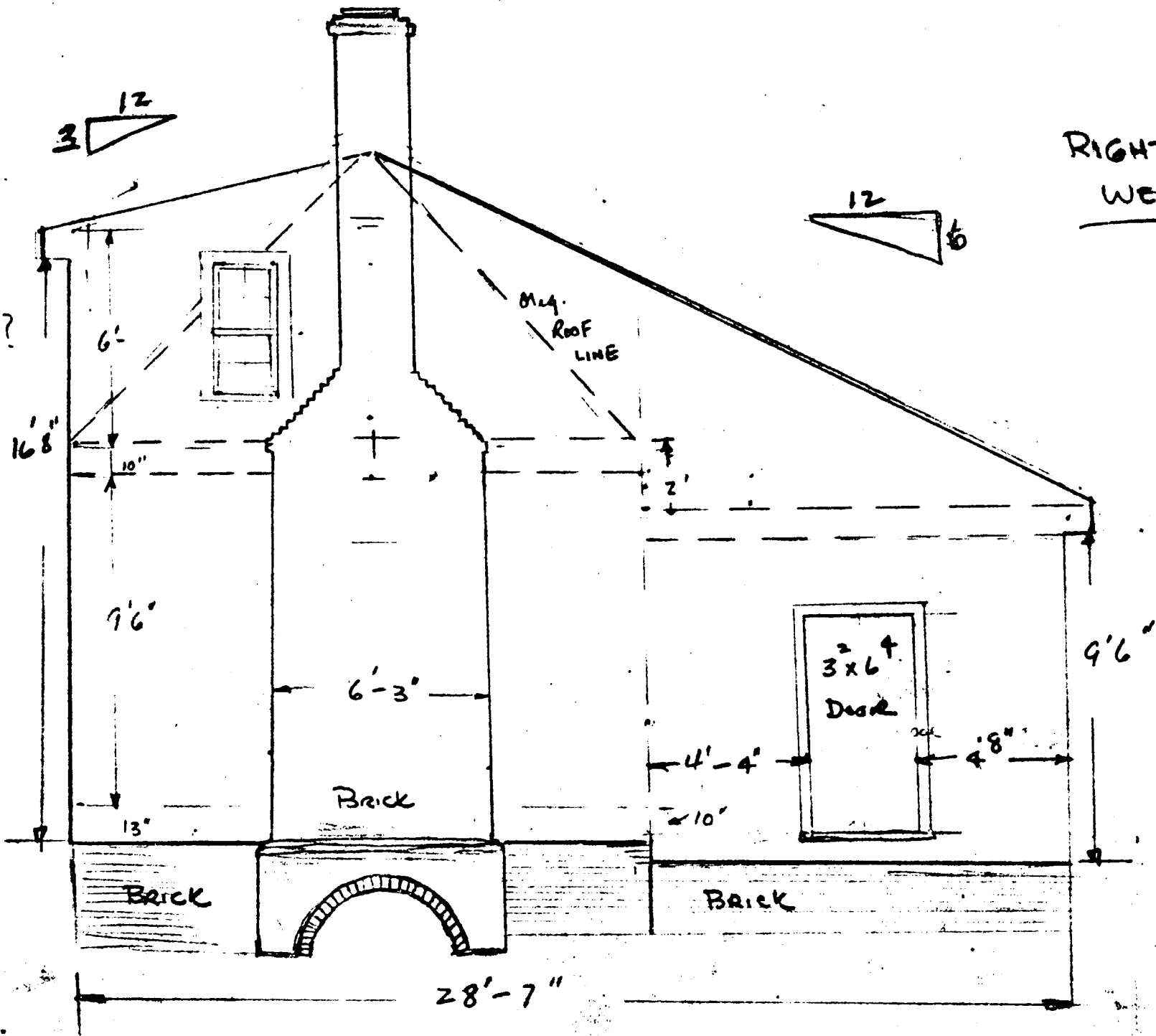


28

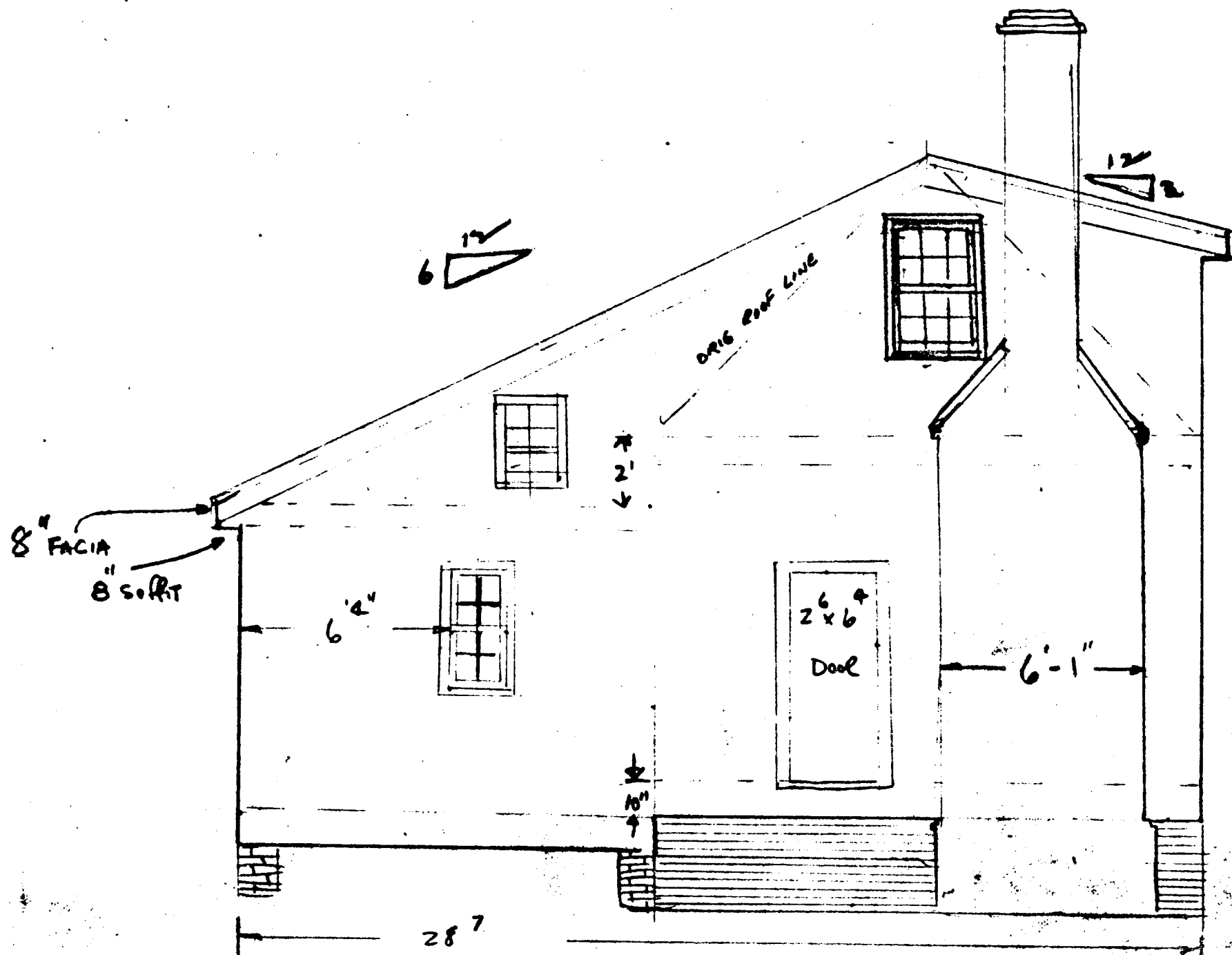


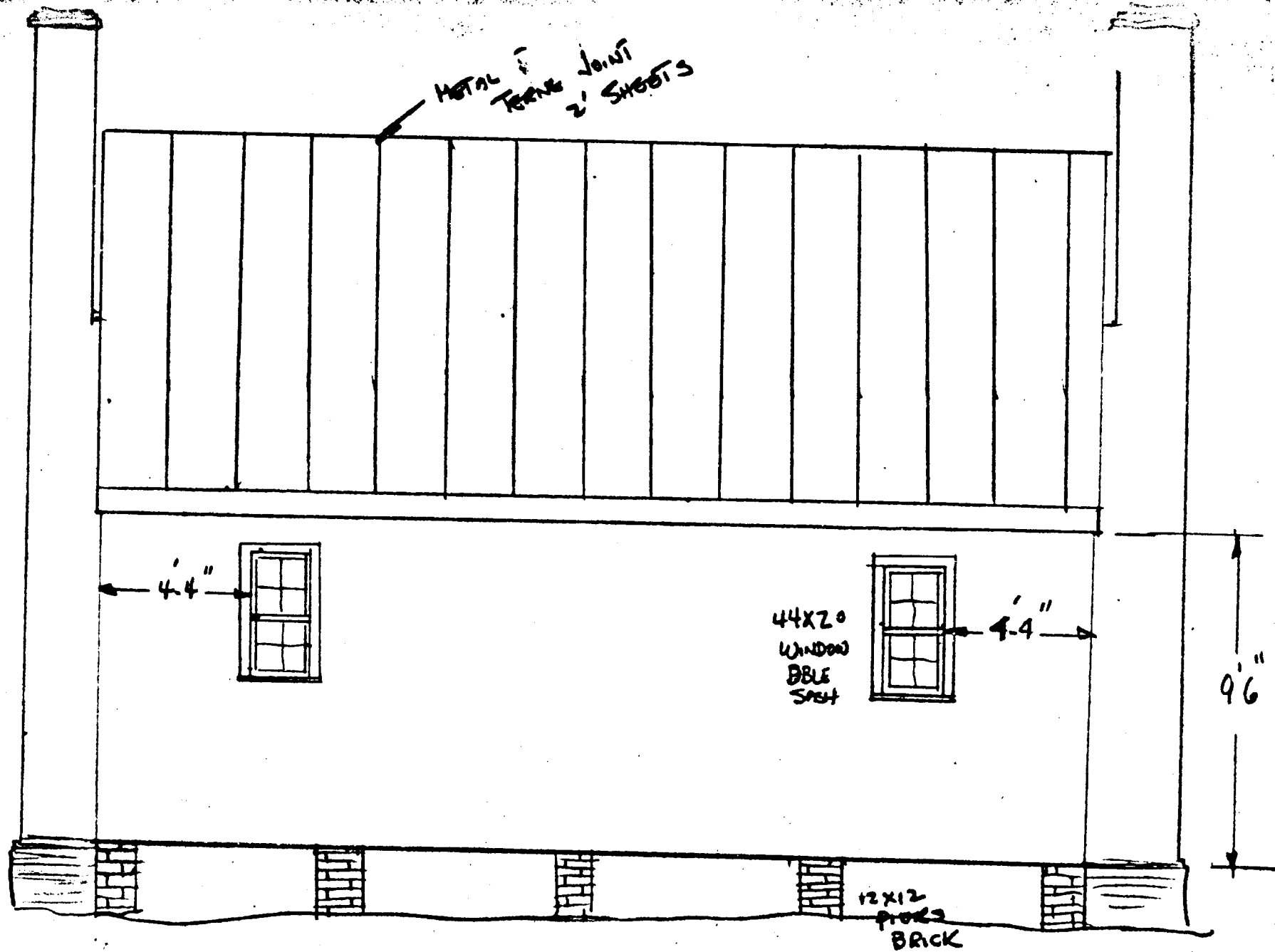
RIGHT OR
WEST ELEV

soff. + width?

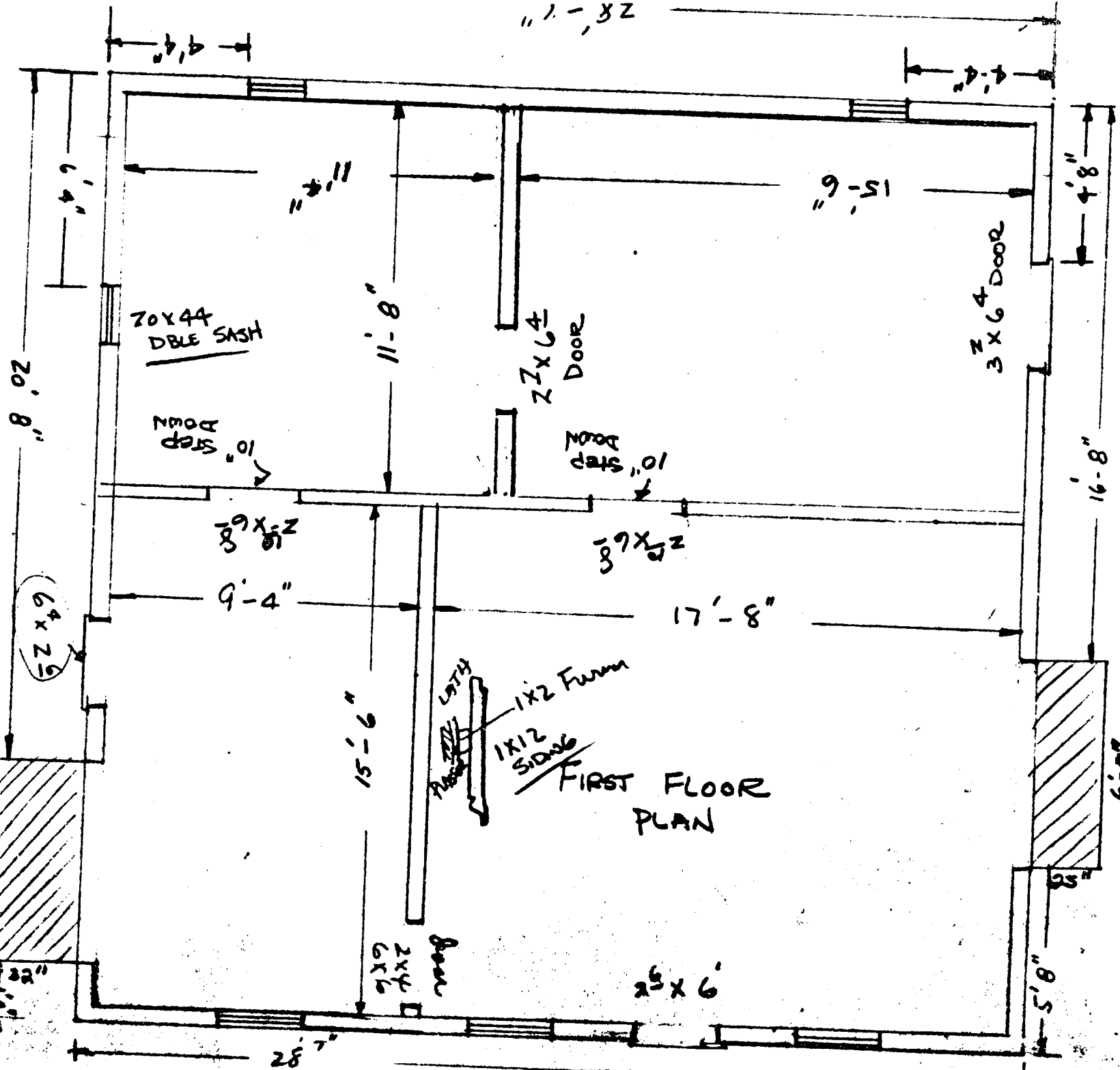


14.23





REAR ELEV.



STUDS
3 5/8" x 3 5/8"

SPACING

WOOD LAT
+ PLASTER
1" THICK

1" WOOD
SIDING
5 3/4"
TOTAL

SCALE
1/4" = 1'

STAIRS

FIRST FLOOR

CH 23

[illegible]

3x4 | window | 3/4
14-2

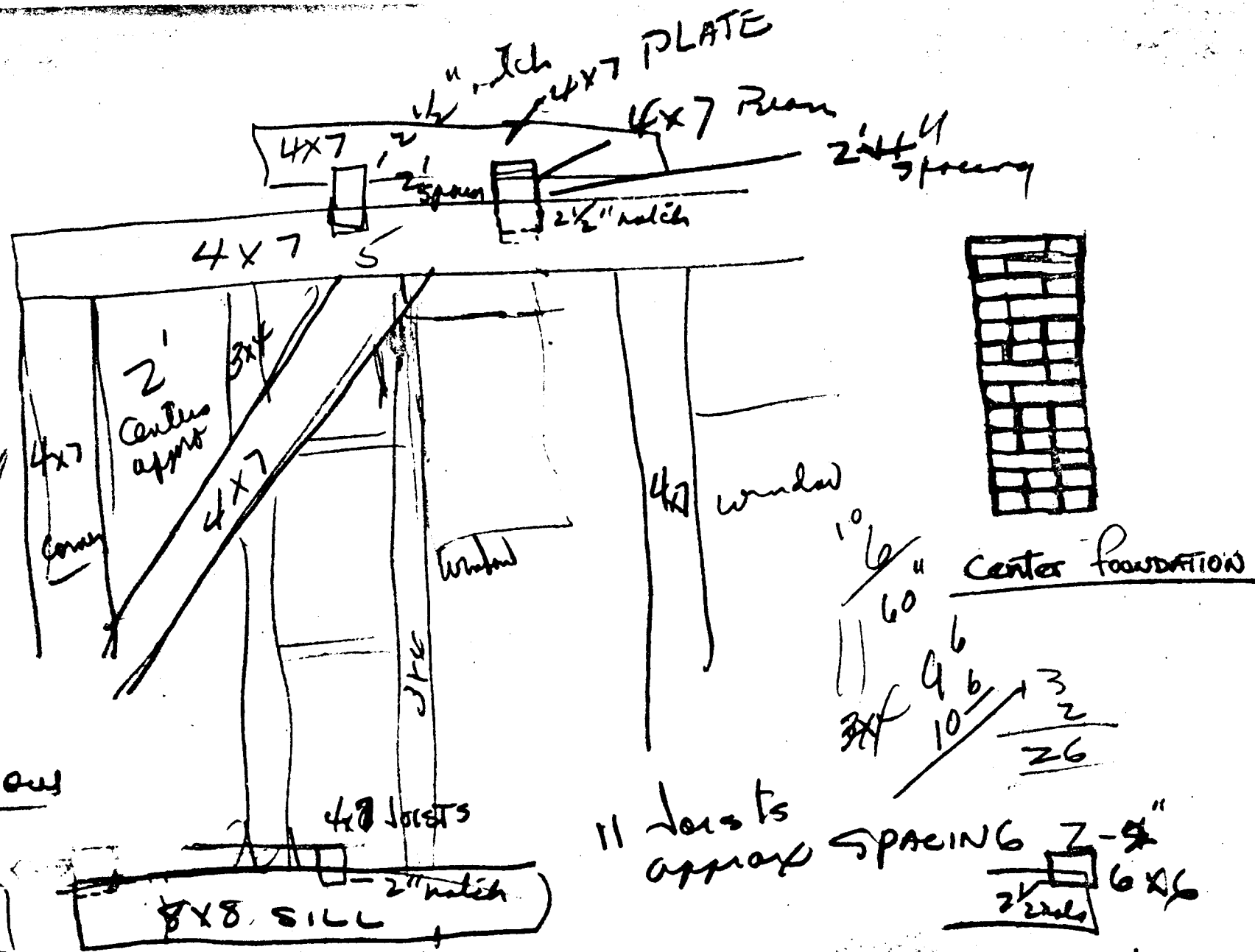
$\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$
double
part

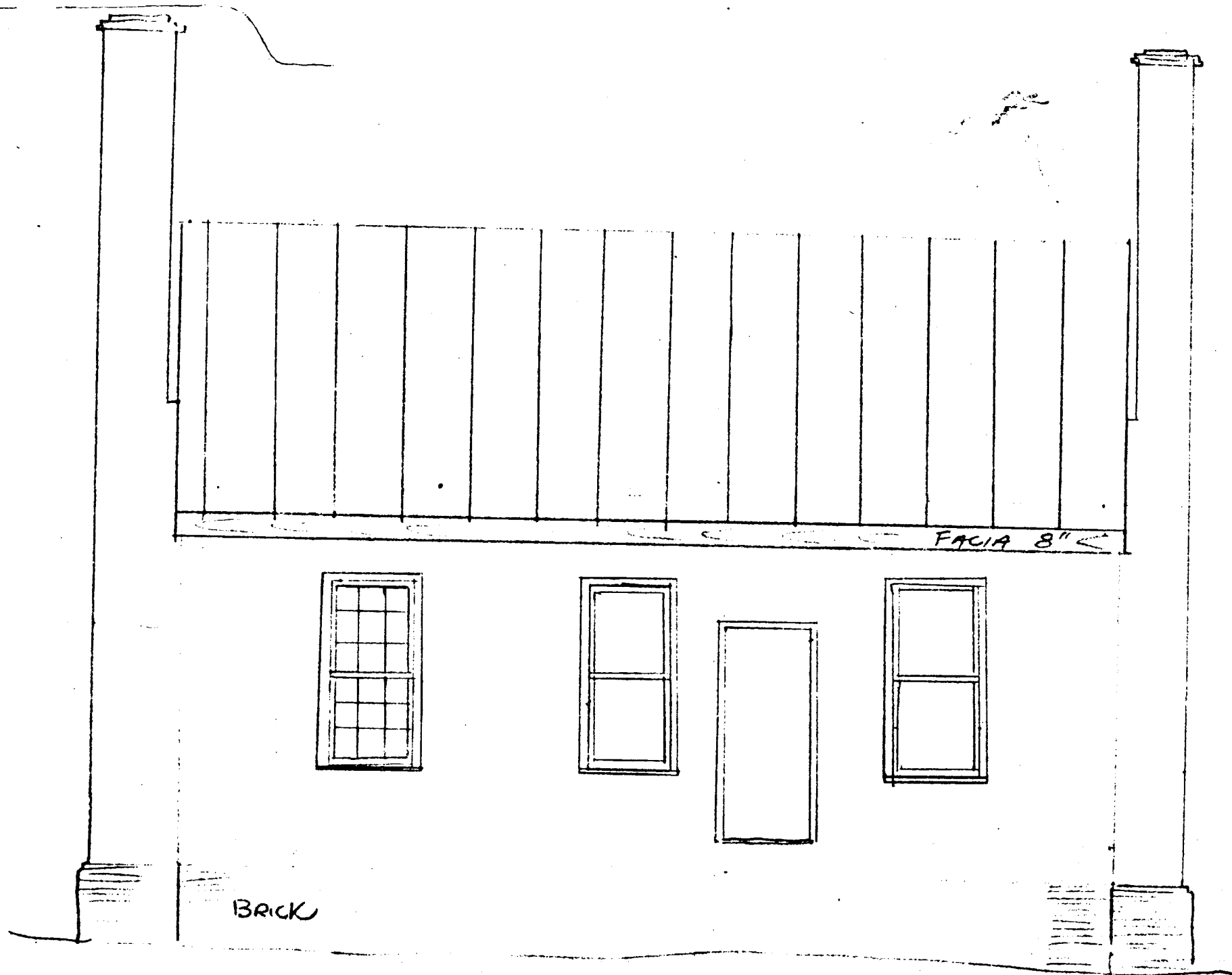
427 | window | 3/4 | 1/2 | 800
15 x 2 x 16
1 x 16 x 1 x 2

4x7 4x7 3/4 wnd
Belle

1/4 1/4 4x7 can

10

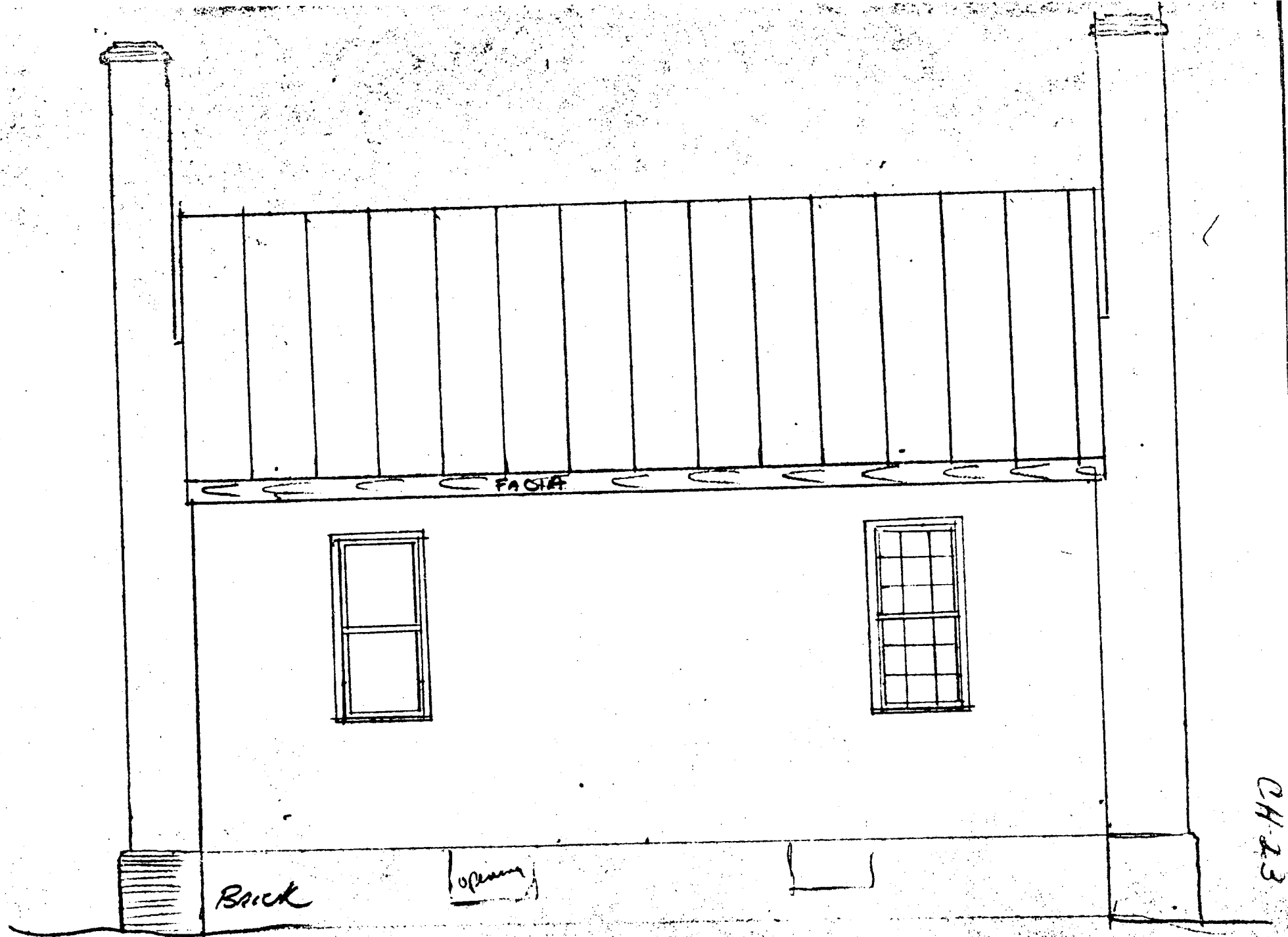




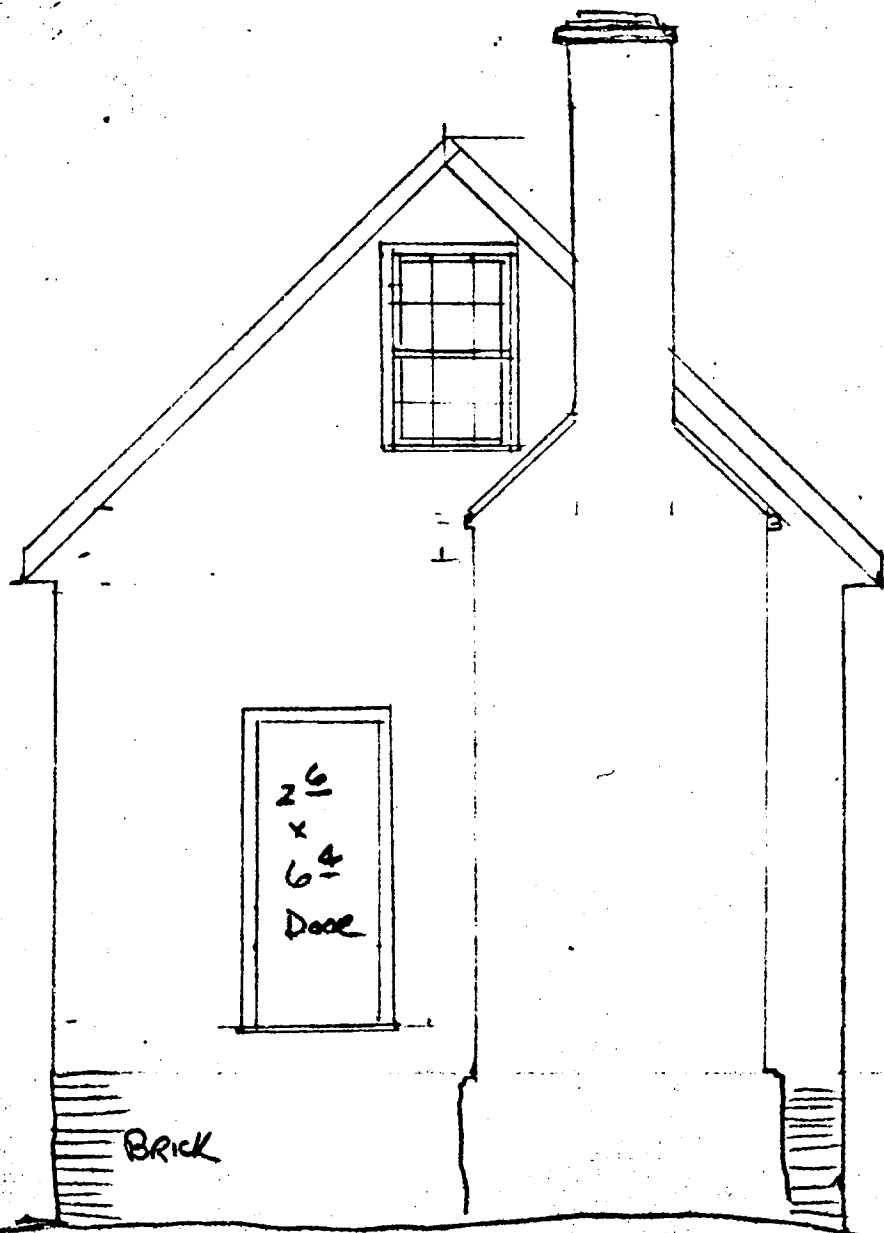
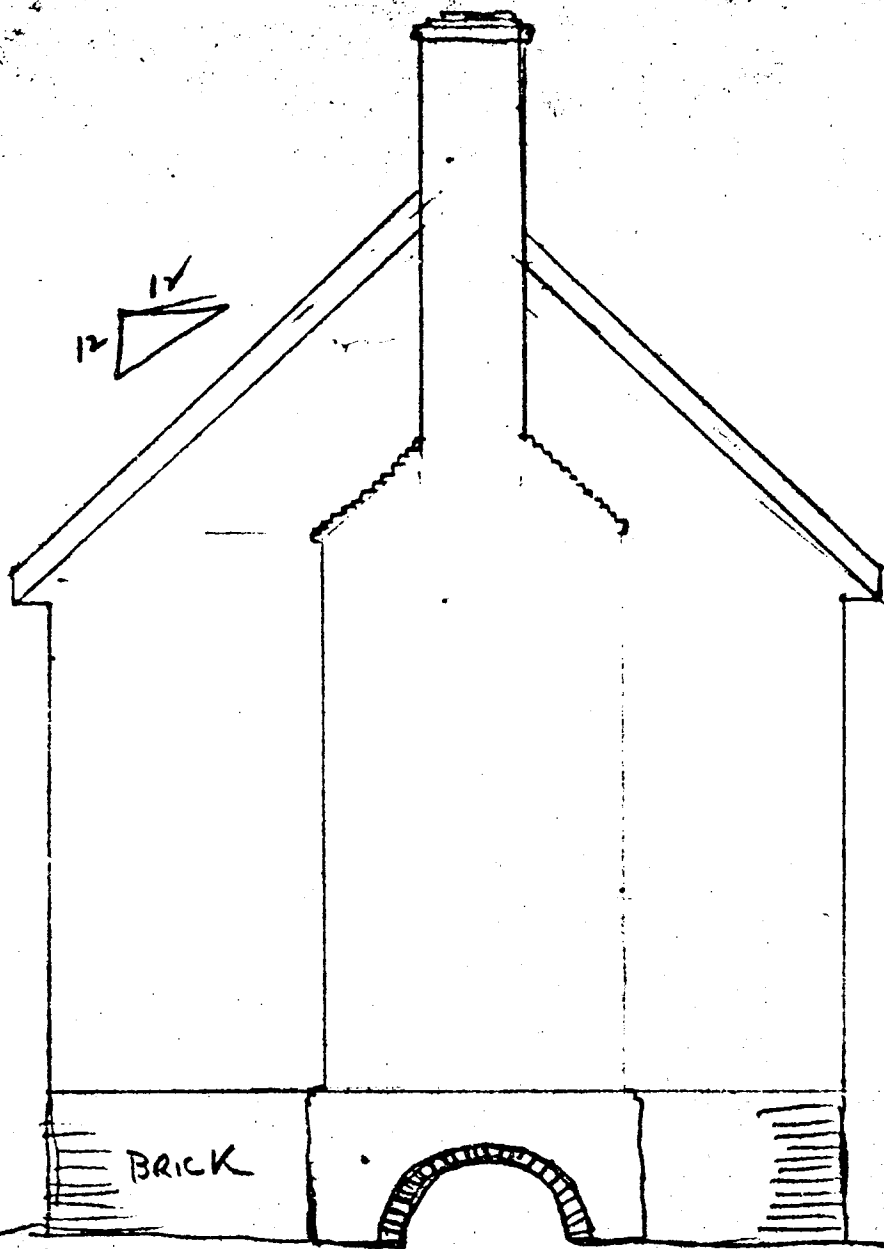
BRICK

FRONT ELEV. ORIG HOUSE

CH-23

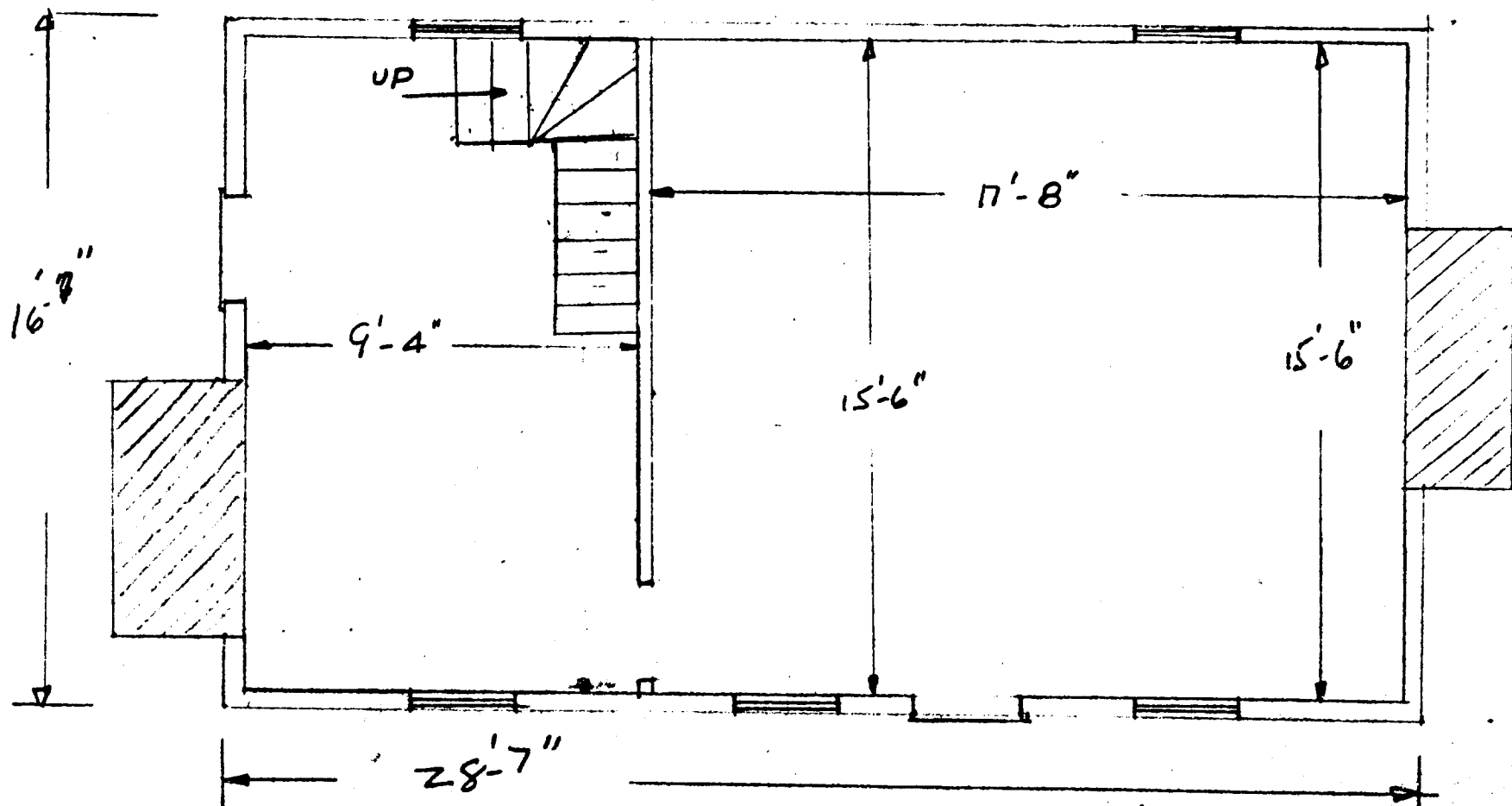


REAR ELEV - ORIG HOUSE



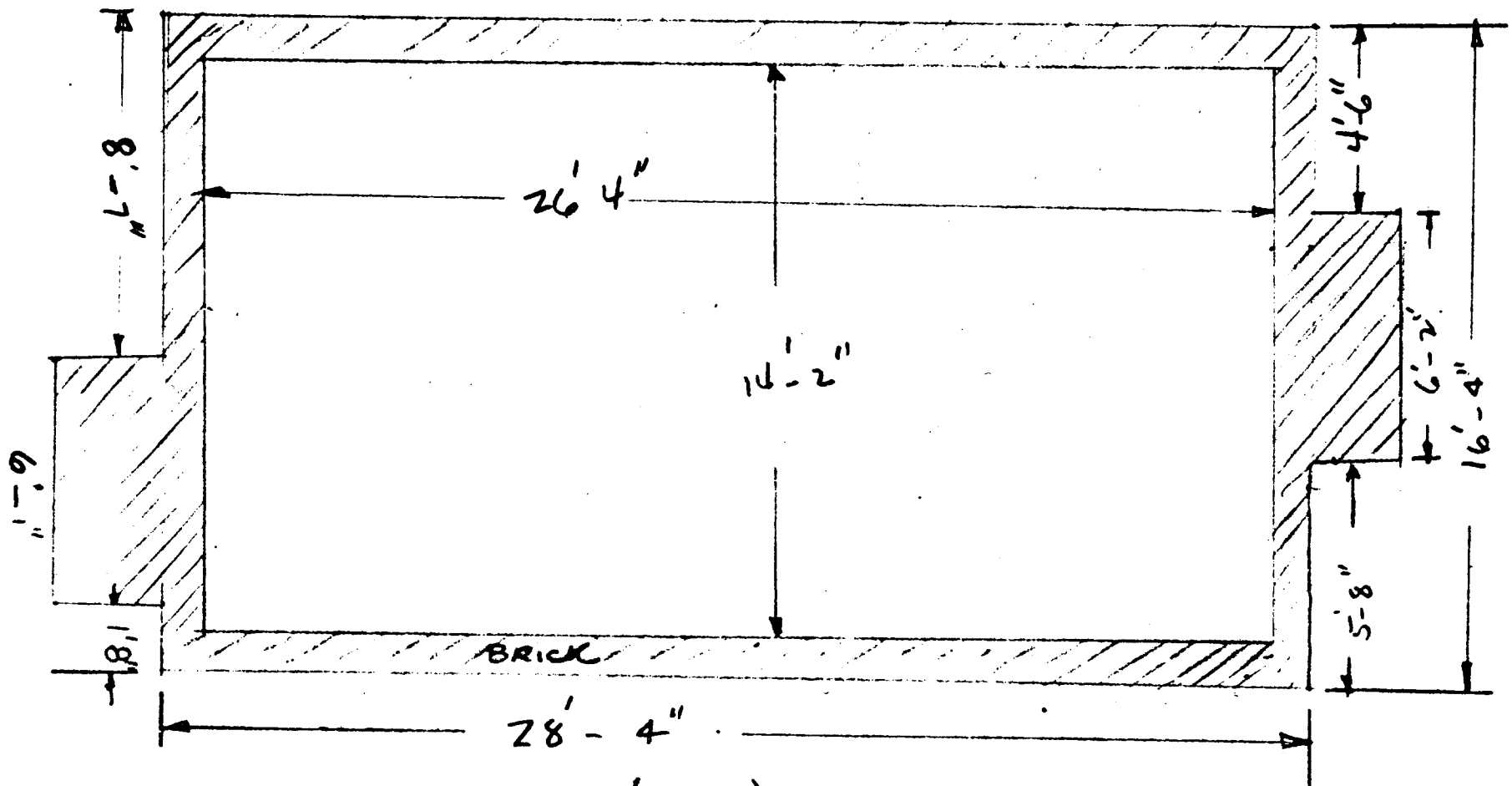
16'-4"
WEST ELEV - ORIG HOUSE

EAST ELEV - ORIG HOUSE



FLOOR PLAN ORIG HOUSE

24-23



(FRONT)

ORIGINAL FOUNDATION PLAN

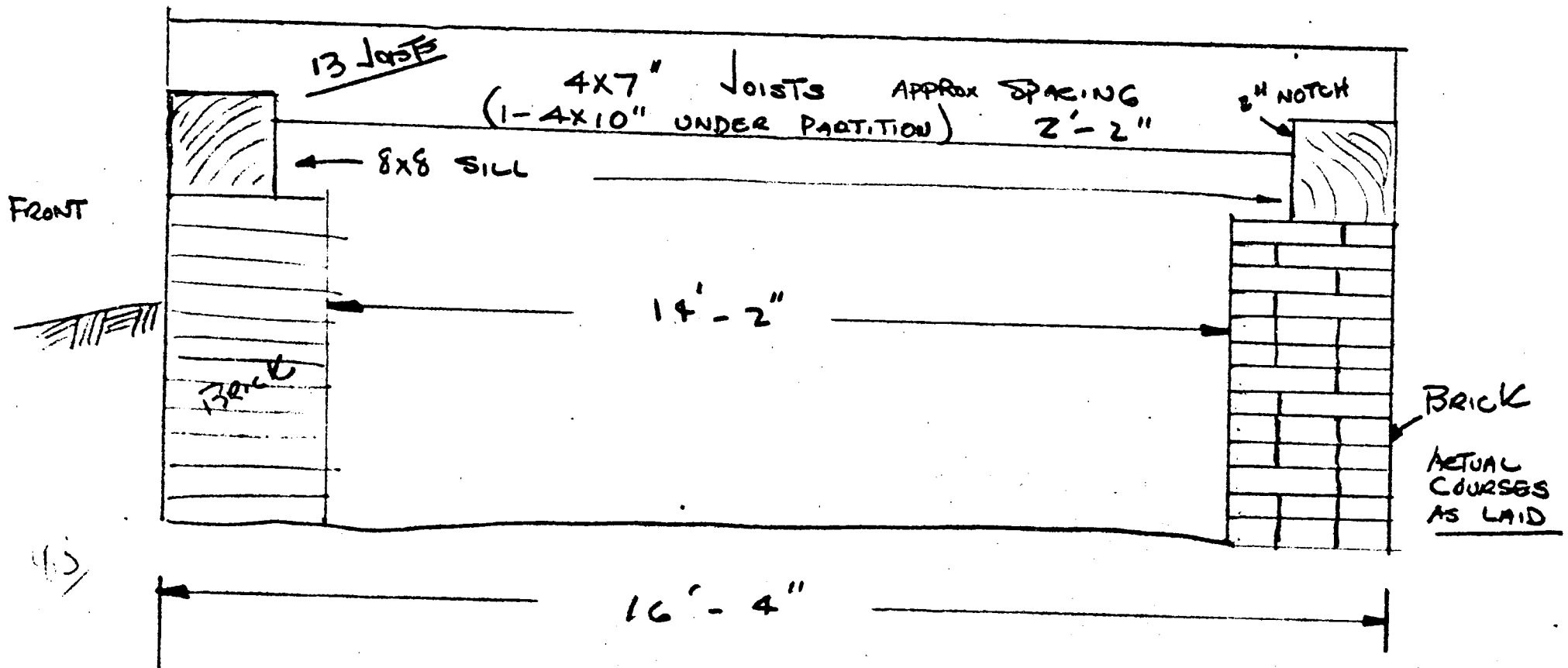
$$\begin{array}{r} 1-1 \\ 14-2 \\ \hline 16-0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11-8 \\ 6-6 \\ 15-6 \\ \hline 28-6 \end{array}$$

NOTE: FRONT WALL COLLAPSED (FOUNDATION)
HAS BEEN REPAIRED + REPLACED WITH SAME BRICK BUT ONLY
2 ROWS OF BRICK WIDE

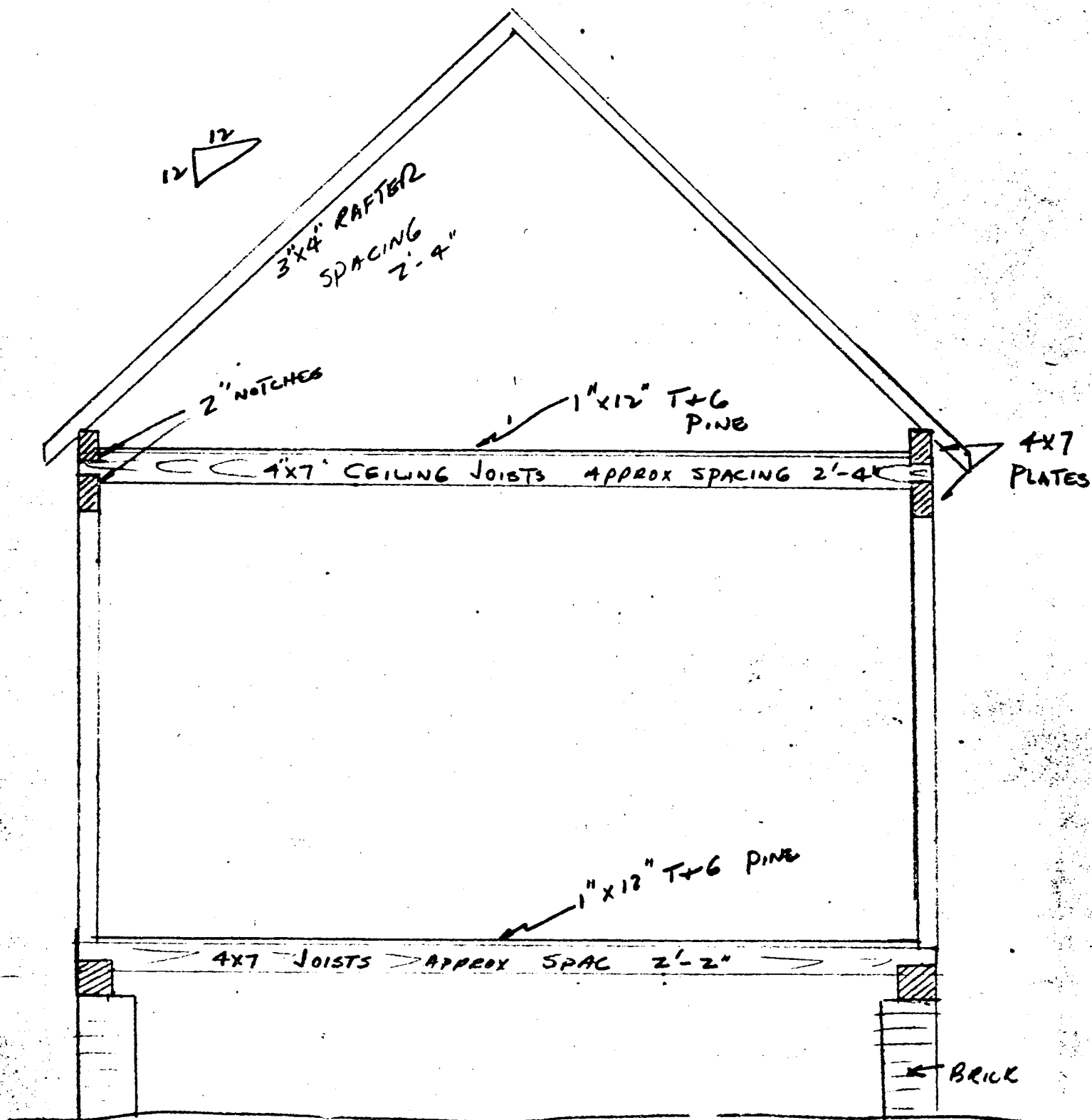
SILL IS TENON + MORTISED AT CORNERS

FOUNDATION - TRIPLE ROW HAND MADE BRICK 8"X4"X2" LAID IN INTERLOCKING
BOND - SEE REAR FOUNDATION WALL



FOUNDATION SECTION (ORIGINAL HOUSE)

$\frac{1}{2}" = 1"$

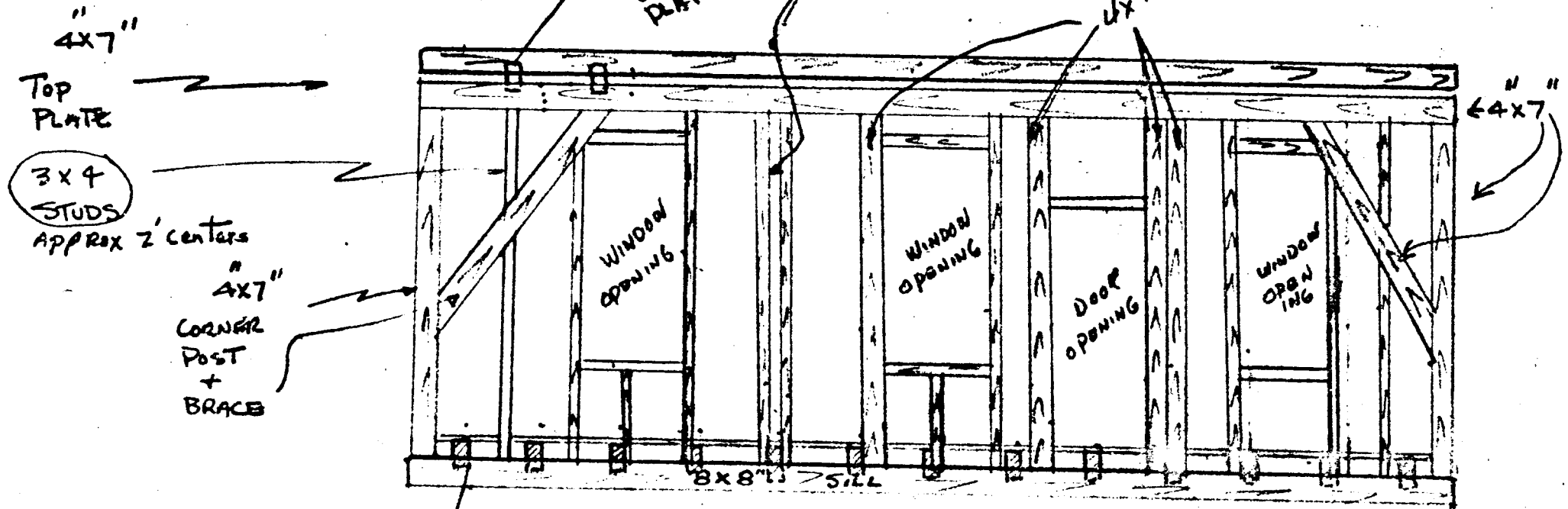


SECTION - ORIG HOUSE

SCALE 3/8" = 1'

Joists Floor with 1x12 T+G
For Loft Floor.

SPACED 2'-4"
APPROX.
4x7 Joists
NOTCHED INTO
LOWER + UPPER
PLATES 2"
DOUBLE
PARTITION
BLOCKING

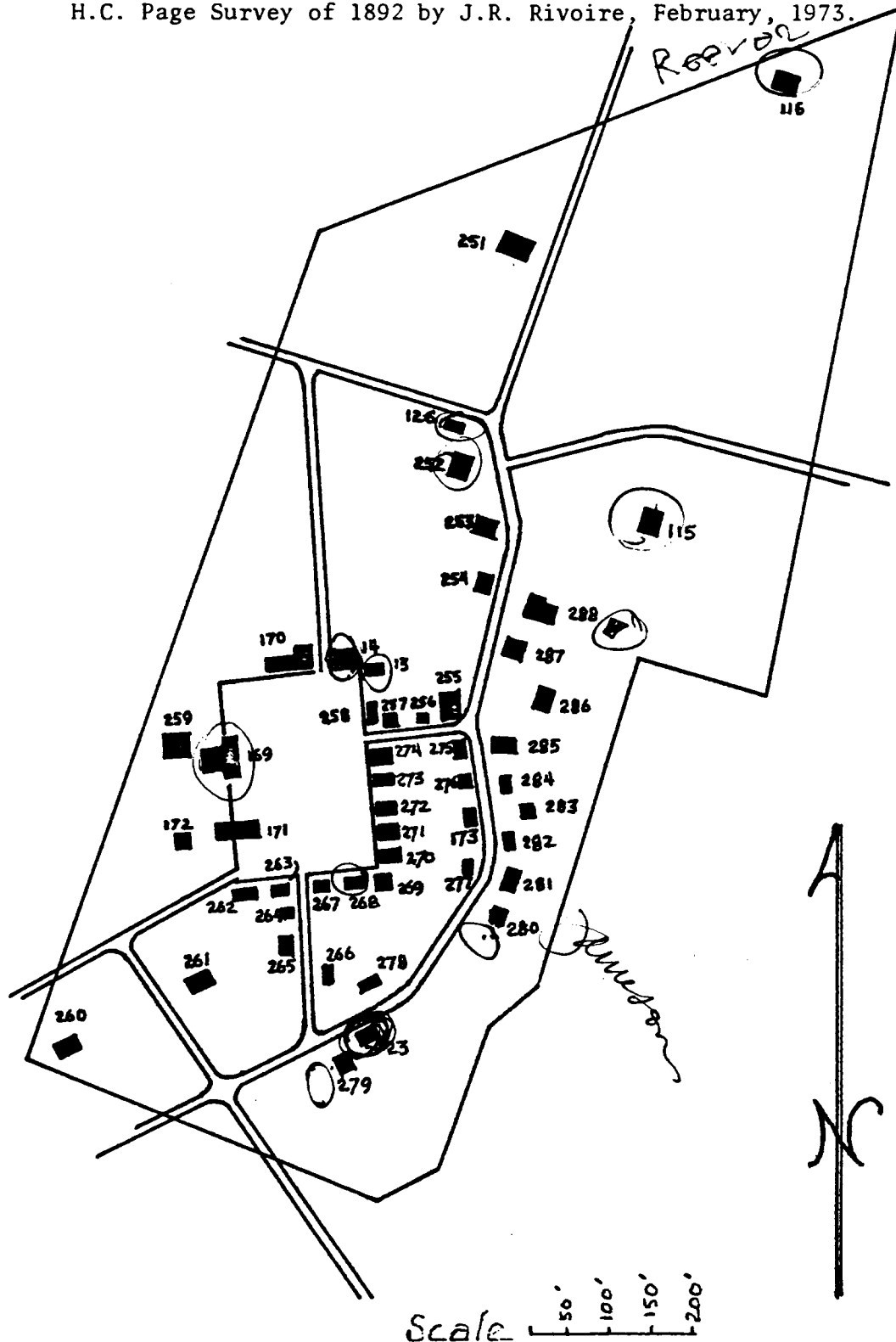


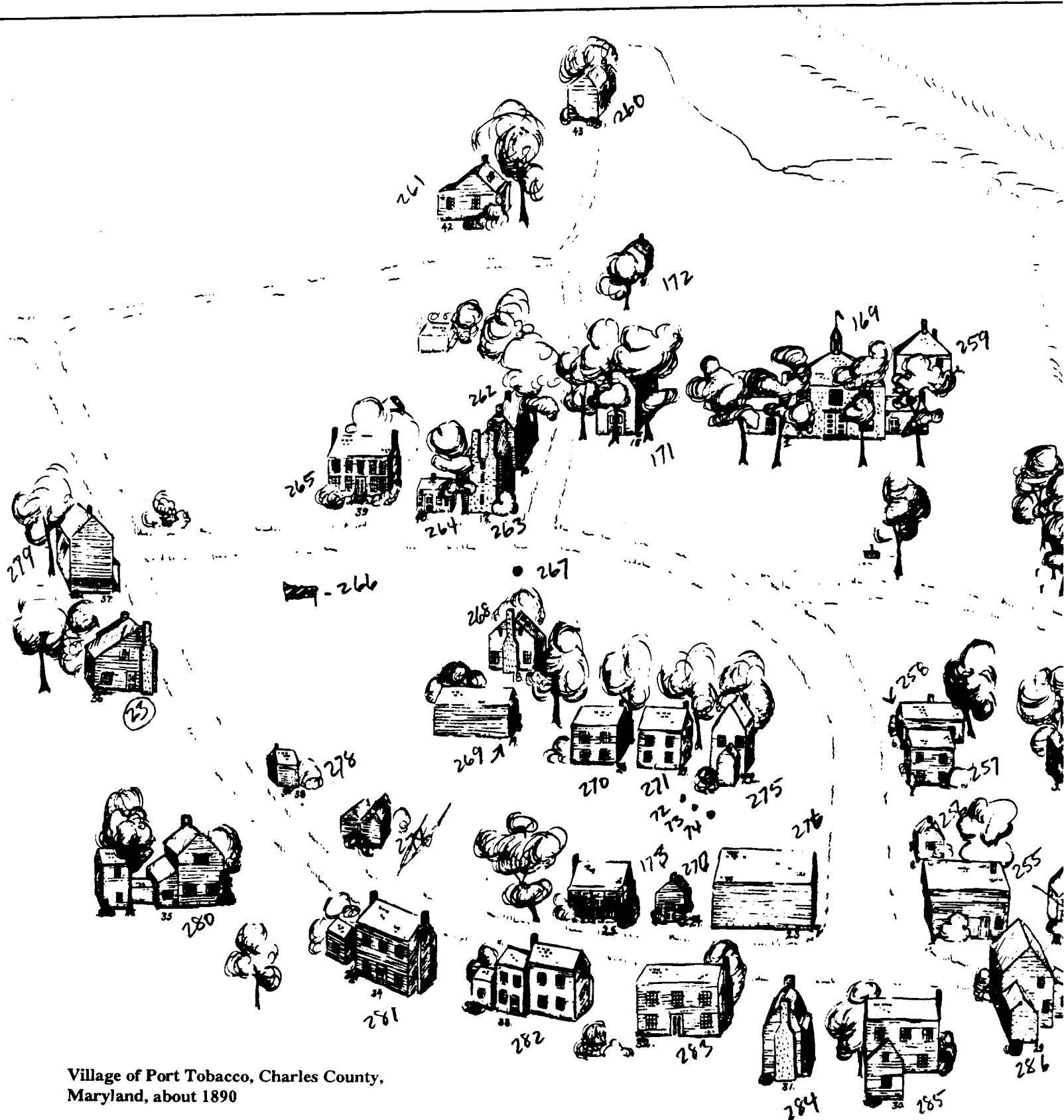
4x7 Joists
NOTCHED 2"
SPACED 2'-2"

FRAMING PLAN

FRONT WALL - ORIG. HOUSE

1892 Boundaries of the Village of Port Tobacco, Charles County, Maryland, Showing the Locations of Buildings, Sites, and Areas (Aboriginal and Colonial) of Archaeological Significance, that Exist Within the Settlement. Reduced and Drawn from the Original H.C. Page Survey of 1892 by J.R. Rivoire, February, 1973.





Village of Port Tobacco, Charles County,
Maryland, about 1890

Printed for and Distributed by The Society for
the Restoration of Port Tobacco, Inc.

By Rosemary Coyle Warner, April, 1970 (?)



PORT TOBACCO
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/88
MARYLAND SHPD
BURCH HOUSE. CAMERA FACING SW.
15/18

AUG 88

AUG 88

AUG 88
XEROX
AS CESSCO

PORT TOBACCO
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
J.R. RIVOIRE
8/88
MARYLAND SHPD
FIELD WITH BUILDING SITES ON W. SIDE
CHAPOL POINT ROAD. BURCH HOUSE
IN BACKGROUND. CAMERA FACING
S-SW
16/18

AUG 88



BURCH HOUSE - CHARLES COUNTY

1780-1810 - UNIQUE CHIMNEY CONSTRUCTION

NOT VISIBLE IN PHOTOGRAPH. PART

OF HISTORIC PORT TOWNSHIP ~~PART~~ HISTORIC
DISTRICT.



CH-23

5200 REC-100000 05-12 410 (3) 1945





CH-23

0208 0900 000000 00+12 000 000 0000



CH-23

2020-11-25 10:00:00-12:00:00